

Charleston

Chas.

The Gleaner.



Vol. II.

No. 10.

JANUARY, 1903.

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THE GLEANER

Vol. II.

NATIONAL FARM SCHOOL, JANUARY, 1903.

No. 10.

Skater's Song.

Away and away, o'er the deep-sounding
tide,
On crystals of silver we sweep and we
glide;
The steel is our pinion, our roof the
broad blue,
And heaven's pure breezes our pathway
pursue.
So, joyfully, brothers, we glide and we
sweep
Away and away over life's frozen deep.

Thou golden-bright palace, whose hand
arched thee o'er,
And spread out beneath us the diamond-
paved floor,
And gave us the steel with its lightning-
like glance,
Through the heavenly chambers of life
far and wide.

Through the pale mist of evening the sun
glimmers still,
And lingers awhile on the brow of the
hill;
But now he's gone down, and with tran-
quil soft glow,
The moon shines like silver above and
below.
So, joyfully, brothers, we float and we
glide,
In sunshine and moonlight, o'er life's
silver tide.

Look up, now! How sparkles that blue
sea on high!
And below us, in the frost, gleams a star-
lighted sky;
For He, who with suns stubbed over
head,
Beneath us a frost-flowered meadow hath
spread.
So, joyfully, brothers, we float and we
glide,
Through life's starry meadows, away far
and wide.

He hath made us this palace, so airy and
wide,
And gave us steel feet, amid dangers to
glide;
In the frost of mid-Winter he kindles our
blood;
We hover, we sweep, o'er treacherous
flood.
So, fearlessly, brothers, steel-hearted we
sweep
O'er the sounding abysses of life's stormy
deep.

ANON.

Observations from a Car Window.

From Philadelphia, Pa., to Vacaville, Cal.

BY MAURICE MITZMAIN.

Started from Philadelphia, Monday,
July 7th, at 3.15 P. M.

Arrived at Washington at 6 P. M.,
where we stopped a few minutes. Passed
through Wilmington and Baltimore and
across through Maryland to West Vir-
ginia, then to Maryland again and skirted
through the hills and mountains of the
Blue Ridge of West Virginia, (and here
while doubled up on my seat asleep, my
umbrella mysteriously disappeared.) I
lost my time tables and at many stations
on the road was unable to procure substi-
tutes. I therefore guess our location or
make inquiries.

We pulled out of West Virginia this
morning as we were made aware of the
presence of the Ohio River, a muddy,

EDITORS NOTE—M. Mitzman, '02, in company
with A. Newman, '02, took a trip across the con-
tinent to California, where they are now employed on a
fruit farm.

sluggish stream, about one-half mile in width, plied with many barges and mud scows.

The only imposing scenery thus far, is that of West Virginia, whose stately hills and bold rocky prominences are much in evidence. There is no sign of habitation on the hillsides, but at the base, small shanties surrounded by tiny patches of cultivated land were hidden by the trees which enclosed them.

The Ohio River is still in evidence. Nearly every mile presents a tributary. We are passing through Ohio. Habitation and cultivation is more extensive than in the State we left.

It rained in torrents last evening and this morning, the sun-kissed golden hills were arched by a beautiful rainbow which seemed to struggle feebly along the crests of the high hills.

We stopped at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, for ten minutes where we procured some hot coffee. In the vicinity of Mt. Vernon the country exhibited the best agricultural display thus far, but does not equal Bucks county, Pa.

Prior to our arrival at Mt. Vernon, we came across some rather serious washouts and our train was obliged to proceed at a snail's pace, with extreme caution for several miles. In the vicinity of North Baltimore, Ohio, the country abounds in oil wells and pumping stations and where the oil well flourished the neglect of the farming industry was much in evidence, not because of the condition of the soil but of the probable division of labor between oil pumping and crop raising.

In northwest Ohio, the majority of the fences are of the old zig-zag style. In many parts new land was put under cultivation, which was shown by the presence of innumerable tree stumps where the forests had been cleared for tilling purposes. As we proceed westward the fields are larger and the forests scarcer.

We are two hours behind scheduled time, due to delay caused by washout, and we are driven through the cinder-

laden air at a terrific rate. Collars and cuffs are discarded and the men in our car sit unconcernedly in *deshabille* attire. Every few minutes the seats are covered with dust and the porter is kept busy dusting seats and floor.

Now and anon the newsboy and vendor of fruits, candies and other unearthly luxuries, pokes his wares in your face in-trustively and demands of you to purchase them. If we continue in our reading, he confides in us and tells us as a special friendly offer, he will give us (not sell us or rather rob us) but will give us an extraordinary fifteen cent edition paper-covered pamphlet which cost him two dollars and fifty cents and which he gives away to the passengers for that price by the thousands for the trifling sum of one dollar and fifty cents. Upon refusing to purchase or accept of his wares he leaves us indignant only to return with a smile and another gift.

From Philadelphia to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, we were accompanied by several U. S. Marines who recounted numberless adventures and unpublished exploits in the Philippines and Cuba.

As we approach Indiana the country becomes more flat with a woody background which is not elevated. As the lakes are approached Indiana becomes a flat, open, uninteresting country; the soil becomes darker.

At Chicago Junction, Newman telegraphed to Goldman in Chicago to meet us at the terminus. Arrived at the Grand Central Station at 9 P. M., Tuesday. As we alighted from the train we were met by Goldman and after being conveyed to the Northwestern Depot, we deposited our baggage and surrendered ourselves to Goldman who showed us the sights of "a real live city" (Kipling in his "American Notes.")

The impression received was not very favorable, due to the submergence of the city streets under water for forty days previous to our arrival. The streets were wide and the houses capacious, fronting

generally on muddy thoroughfares. Cable cars and elevated railroads abounded. The greatest feature of the city, however, was its numerous saloons and music halls. We staid in Chicago over night and nothing eventful occurring, took the ten o'clock morning train for our continued passage. We left Chicago as we entered it, in a rain storm.

Through the state of Iowa, devastation by the late floods was much in evidence. The superfluous water converted the once flourishing corn fields into swamps, submerging trees and fences, and in some instances leaving no traces of the latter. Telegraph poles were covered by ten feet of water. On entering the state of Iowa, after passing through the first station, we crossed the Mississippi as unconcernedly as though passing the Neshaminy Creek.

At Cedar Rapids we made the first stop of any important length—ten minutes—which opportunity we grasped for procuring warm lunch. The station was the finest thus far on the road. A short distance from the station we passed the Cedar River which is nearly as wide at this point as the Mississippi.

Iowa excels in its immense corn fields and herds of steer and swine. Sheep are not appearing, but horses do in small herds frequently.

The recent floods have made broad rivers where none existed before. The roads here are in a very poor condition, resembling miles of shoe blacking, but we noticed that the wheels do not sink nearly so much as in the roads in the East under similar circumstances. The pasture lands, though extensive, are not in a very flourishing condition.

Yea, truly in Iowa corn is King!

At Tama, Iowa, we came across an Indian reservation. The members all appeared in gorgeous attire, principally in red and orange colored blankets and broad brimmed sombreros. A few lived in shanties, while the remainder abide in wigwams and tents constructed of blankets, branches and bags. The Indian men

and women could be seen lying in front of their tents on the damp bare ground. They all hailed us with waves and shouts as we sped by.

As we go westward from Tama the scene changes. The country is flat with a high rolling background.

The worst floods thus far were at Ames, Iowa, where they have played fearful havoc. Thousands of acres of cultivated crops were submerged. The State College, at Ames, for which we were on the lookout, loomed up in the distance. It was beautifully set off by magnificent buildings, luxuriant crops and a herd of sleek cattle and horses. The college is one-half mile from the railroad and the golden sunset made the college beautifully impressive.

The train stopped long enough at Carroll, Iowa, for us to deposit a postal card, previously written, to Sol. Pizer, who is employed on a celery farm in that vicinity.

Omaha, Nebraska, was passed during the night. It appeared to be a town of no mean size, judging from the station. The morning found us passing through the great prairies of Nebraska. Trees are becoming scarcer and the houses are no less than five, ten and fifty miles apart. The country is very flat and that portion, which is cultivated, is planted to corn.

At Columbus, Nebraska, we passed the Platte River, and for miles have been following its course. We are now in the Platte Valley between the surrounding hills twenty miles in width. It is a very fruitful valley abounding in rich harvests of alfalfa, corn and wheat. Alfalfa brings good results, producing three and four crops. It is stacked in the open field and resembles when cured, the color of wheat.

Wheat fields here are hundreds of acres in extent, while corn is grown not quite so extensively. Throughout the country can be discerned wide ditches, some of which are fifteen miles in length. These are controlled by the "Farmers Ditch Union," and are used for irrigation purposes.

The country here has received nearly as much rain as Iowa, but floods are of rare occurrence because the soil contains a large amount of sand and permits of easy drainage. The roads are in good condition.

It was in Platte Valley, Neb., that I saw the first prairie schooner. The settlers utilize this means of conveyance even today. As we enter Wyoming the scene changes. There is not a vestige of cultivation, we have gone fifty miles without seeing a tree. The sandy wastes permit of little growth but wild bushes and shrubs grow in abundance. The country as we speed onward, is dotted with cattle ranges and now and then can be perceived a lonely cowboy trotting his mustang among the drifting cattle and rounding them up into one central mass.

The country assumes a more wild and hilly appearance. The railroad bed is more rocky and rougher riding.

On the way to Cheyenne, we had for company countless colonies of prairie dogs which seemed unperturbed by the rattle of the iron wheeled monster.

It was near Cheyenne that the Rockies could be viewed, dimly outlined against the sky. From thirty-five miles to Cheyenne is a gradual ascent until the altitude attains the height of 7000 feet.

Cheyenne is a prosperous town of fifteen thousand inhabitants. It is called "The Magic City," due to its prosperity in a relatively short time. Here we staid long enough to partake of a light lunch. The station is a magnificent structure and advertises the prosperity of the town.

To be Continued.

January.

The air was crisp and cool. The descending sun shown forth in all its splendor, bringing out in bold relief the snow-capped hills, making the valleys which lay between them appear like broad, black, treacherous chasms.

Here and there could be seen level fields of snow, their monotony unbroken save for the few naked trees in their midst. The sun soon disappeared; everything grew dark; objects took on a black and gloomy aspect, like gruesome specters of the night. Soon the myriads of stars made their appearance casting a little light upon the open.

A wind arose, blowing through the trees with such rapidity that shrill whistles could be distinctly heard again and again rising on the night air and gradually dying away into a low moan. Gust succeeded gust until all except the nocturnal Kingdom were lulled to peaceful slumber. Such was an evening and night in January.

G. S. B., '03.

Vacation Memories.

What student is there who does not hail with delight the approach of a vacation? The anticipation of enjoying different climes and scenes makes us forget for a moment our own familiar surroundings.

Our brief vacation has come to an end, yet during that time we have enjoyed different surroundings, visited places of historic fame, and have listened to prominent and intelligent men.

As we return to our studies and duties, we look back with fond regret to those pleasant times so recently passed.

The weeks, that before seemed long and never ending, have suddenly taken flight and soon are a mere vision. The irresistible force of time has refused to be delayed or hindered, but passed away as regularly as the sun shines, yet we return wiser and better prepared to begin our studies with renewed energy.

Travelling to some distant part of the country we see many places of interest. Going west to Chicago large forests and the great wheat and corn belts are passed.

Stopping at Buffalo we are forcibly reminded of that mighty exponent of civilization and advancement—the great American exposition which has revealed to mankind the phenomena of the twentieth century.

But now we shudder and a feeling of

sadness pervades our being as we are reminded that not more than a year ago our beloved President was brought to an untimely death by the bullet of an assassin. An hour later we arrive at Niagara Falls on the Canadian side.

In unutterable silence we gaze at the mighty cataract, falling over a ledge of rock, one hundred and ninety feet below.

What a grand sight, what a wonderful phenomenon of nature.

To describe the Falls would be to create them. It is beyond human accomplishments to attempt to put into words what is so graphically described by actual existence.

The mighty current of water rushes along a shallow bottom of rock for about a quarter of a mile and then falls over the ledge.

The sun shining on the falling spray presents a sight of unprecedented beauty and grandeur. As the water falls a mighty mist arises partially obscuring from view the mighty depths below.

As we pass through Canada we can not help but admire the magnificent forests in which lies such valuable timber.

The streets and thoroughfares of the towns present an appearance of neatness and cleanliness which can well be adopted by our modern cities.

Night-fall finds us in Chicago. What a difference between the sublime and quiet of the country and the bustle and excitement of urban life!

We are now at our journey's end. To go into detail describing the many points of interest would take volumes, but suffice it to say that a visit to the "Windy City" will prove a revelation and leave an everlasting memory of its beauty and industry.

BERNARD A. ZALINGER, '04.



Take Notice!

With this issue the second volume of The Gleaner is completed. The Annual Number will be Volume III, No I. The students are expected to make this the most important issue that has so far been published. Wait for the Annual Number and see what they can do.

Alumni Notes.

Most of our graduates are situated at great distances from our school, but this does not deter them from visiting us occasionally. Those who have recently visited us were: Harry Weinberg, '01; Charles S. Heller, '02; Louis Burd, '02; William S. Serlin, '02.

The following will give to the friends of the school an idea of how well a few of our graduates have succeeded in their work:

Mr. Harry Weinberg, of the class of 1901 of the National Farm School, was spending part of the Christmas week at the Farm School. The report he gave of his work was most gratifying, and reflects great credit upon his alma mater. Since his graduation in June, 1901, Mr. Weinberg has been employed by the Agricultural Department of the United States Government on Tobacco experiments in the State of Connecticut. He started with a salary of \$50 a month, in less than six months was raised to \$70 a month, and now receives a salary of \$100 a month, and in the Spring will be given charge of a Tobacco Experimental Station, probably with a salary of \$1,500 or \$2,000 a year. Mr. Harry Weinberg came to the National Farm School from the Jewish Foster Home of Philadelphia, and is twenty years of age.

Mr. Solomon Pizer, of the graduating class of 1901 of the National Farm School, who has hitherto had charge of a celery farm in Nebraska, has been chosen to take charge of the Fresh Air Association Plant, which is under the auspices of the Ethical Culture Society of New York. The object of the Fresh Air Association is to bring poor children into the country during the Summer months and initiate them while there in the raising of garden truck and the like, to awaken in them an interest in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Pizer will enter upon his work at once to get the plant in readiness by next Summer.

Mr. Solomon Pizer came to the National Farm School from the Orphans' Home of New Orleans, La., and gives promise of becoming an exceptional scientific and practical agriculturist.

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR,

BERNARD A. ZALINGER, '04.

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Elmore I. Lee, '04, Personal and Social.

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⇒ EDITORIALS ⇒

When the first quarter of the Farm School Literary Society came to a close during the early part of last month all the members were present at the meeting. The officers who were elected for the next quarter were well chosen.

In general, there was a spirit of interest and enthusiasm shown throughout the meetings. This was due, in a large measure, to the excellent attendance at the meetings and the good programs drawn up by the Program Committee.

Good work is always appreciated; especially is this true in the Literary Society where the members—aside from performing the duties allotted to them—willingly undertake to do other work for the benefit of the society and its members.

The excellent opportunity that the so-

ciety affords its members, to obtain the knowledge of how to express themselves in clear undefiled English, has been taken advantage of by many. Perhaps one of the greatest benefits of the Literary Society is that of extemporaneous speaking, a feature which has been sadly neglected. For one to be able to get up and make a few remarks on any subject is a quality which is always highly valued.

When we take up our literary work anew, let us each perform the tasks allotted to us with cheerfulness and enthusiasm and look forward to Saturday evening with a feeling of satisfaction that the time spent in taking in the evening's program or listening to members who perform their part, was of some avail.

* * *

Truly we are living in one of the greatest ages of history! Note the wonderful changes that have taken place in the manners, customs and habits of the people of to-day with those of one hundred years ago. What has brought about these changes? The rapid railroad, steamship, the telegraph, the telephone, the cable and we may add wireless telegraphy.

The mind and energy of man seems all bent toward that goal when man will be able to converse with man—although separated by land and sea—as easily as if they were conversing together in a room. Although the modern methods of conveying thought are very rapid, they are often accompanied by vexatious delays. Wireless telegraphy will eliminate all these difficulties.

The utilization of things which formerly went to waste or which lay in nature undisturbed, produces new industries; these produce rapid progress constantly changing human affairs.



THE weather being unusually warm for December, the students spent most of their time working in the woods clearing away the brush, cutting down trees and thinning out saplings. This is one of the practical lessons in landscape gardening which Mr. Madison is giving to the students. It is desired that the woods should make a neat and attractive appearance at all seasons of the year and this can only be done by removing all objectionable trees, limbs and brush.

The making of four barrels of apple butter formed the greater part of the work of those working in the Farm Department. Eight barrels of cider were made from our fallen apples; of these, four barrels were used in making the apple butter. The work was carried on in the dairy in a large copper vat. The cider was boiled down to about one half its original volume and then from eight to ten bushels of apples, (pared by our paring machine and then cut up into small pieces) were put into the vat and were boiled steadily for twenty-four hours. Cloves and cinnamon were used for spicing.

There is not much work to be done on the farm during this month. Everything in nature is at rest; vegetation has

ceased to grow and will lie dormant until Spring. The trees are bare and the woods are destitute of life.

The thrifty farmer at this time has his crib full of corn, his granary with all kinds of grain, and the mows with hay and fodder for his stock. Being thus provided he can spend the greater part of the Winter in his house with his family. However his time is not spent in idleness. He will now lay plans for his work during the Spring and Summer. He will carefully study what he shall plant in the Spring, which crop will best suit his wants and insure a greater profit, and when Spring comes he will be ready to assume work at once. Farming, like any other business, requires careful study and forethought, and any farmer who wishes to make a success must make a careful study of his conditions, surroundings and soil. His work must be carefully planned before starting, and it is only during the Winter that this can be done. The farmer's success will to a certain extent depend upon his study during his leisure hours in Winter.

During the early part of last month the students finished harvesting the last of the season's crops. Four acres of turnips, ruta-bagas and beets, which will form part of the feed for our stock dur-

ing the Winter, were harvested and stored in a rather primitive way. The yield was exceptionally large and there being no available storage room, the time honored method of storing was resorted to. The roots were accordingly piled up on the ground, and covered with leaves and straw, and as cold weather approached a covering of six inches of soil was thrown over them to insure them against freezing during cold weather.

Great improvements have lately been made in our poultry department, due to the care given it by Mr. Gage, who is quite interested in this branch. The yards were cleaned, the fences repaired and new roofs were put upon the houses. The hens were separated and only those that will lay during the Winter will be kept, all the others are rapidly being disposed of. Poultry can be profitable only when the hens will lay during the Winter when eggs are scarce and sell at a high price.

During the Winter the students have very little work to do. In the Farm Department care of the stock, work in the dairy, cutting wood and storing ice constitutes the greater part of the work at present.

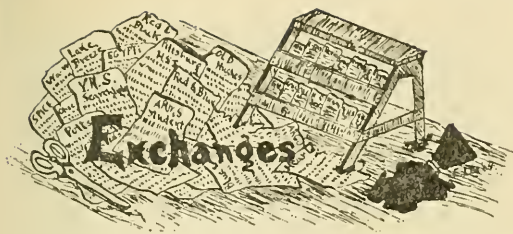
In the Horticultural Department the students under the care of Prof. Madison are now engaged in growing the rose and carnation for cut flowers and propagating different plants for ornamental use in Summer.

The greater part of the time in Winter is devoted to study in the class room and laboratories. The Seniors and Juniors are having lectures in horticulture by Prof. Madison and agriculture chemistry by Dr. Washburn. The Sophomores under Prof. Shepard are studying soils and its chemistry. The Freshmen are taught the care and management of domesticated animals.

HORTICULTURE.

CUT FLOWERS.

The cut flower industry in this country is very great. Millions of dollars are annually invested in the cultivation and sale of cut flowers. This industry gives employment to thousands of people, and fortunes have been made by some. The growth and evolution of this industry has been very rapid in the last thirty years. Fifty years ago it would be impossible to purchase cut flowers during the Winter even in our largest cities. While to-day there is scarcely a town of a population from three to four thousand that does not boast of its florists, whose main source of revenue is from cut flowers. Many things which were formerly a luxury are now necessities the same as is the flowers. Thirty years ago cut flowers were considered a luxury and were used only by the wealthiest class of people. To-day they are considered a necessity, and are used almost on all occasions, weddings, birthday gifts, dinner parties and in the sick room they are a source of delight to the patient. The most important plants used for this purpose are the rose and carnation. In the early state of the cut flower industry comallios were the most valued of all the cut flowers. At the present time they are almost forgotten and the "Queen of Flowers," the rose, has taken its place. And the greatest care is now given them by florists. Along with the development of the rose the carnation was rapidly gaining favor with the flower loving people until to-day it ranks in value next to the rose. Both the rose and carnation were known two thousand years ago and were greatly esteemed by people in olden times. A certain reverence was attached to them. *Dianthus* is the specific name given to the carnation, which means Dios, divine, and anthus, flower. The rose was highly esteemed by the Romans and was put to very significant use. A rose placed over the door signified that the one who passes through it is requested not to reveal anything that is said or done within. This probably gave origin to the saying, *sub-rosa*, signifying secrecy.



Four new exchanges have made their appearance on our exchange list this month.

The first, *The Harvard Monthly*, is in a class by itself and exchanges from schools are not for comparison. It is in magazine form and contains excellent literary material. The January issue of 1903 is especially fine and an appropriate cut graces the cover.

The *Latin and High School Review* from the same city is a very fine school journal, the cover is neat, literary articles are plentiful and nice cuts represent the departments.

"Ha, I will fool the bloodhounds yet," cried the fugitive hoarsely, and slipping on a pair of rubbers, he erased his tracks.

Freshie—"I find it hard to express my thoughts."

Senior—"The express companies don't carry such small parcels."

The *Red and Black*, from Chicago, Ill., is another of our new exchanges. It demonstrates the snap and precision of Chicago but it displays little of interest to the outsider.

The coal strike is a miner matter.

"You will observe," said the teacher, "that the higher the altitude attained, the colder the atmosphere becomes."

"But isn't it warmer up in the mountains?" asked a youth at the foot of the class,

"Certainly not," replied the professor, "why do you think it would be warmer there?"

"I thought the atmosphere was heated by the mountain ranges," answered the youngster.

The Opinion, Peoria, Ill., is an inter-

esting journal, Read the stories, they are good.

The High School Journal, Pittsburg, has again arrived in excellent form. The stories and articles are excellent. Welcome.

Joker—"The farmers are all attaching wires to the third rail of the electric car line and running them out into their cornfields."

Dr. C.—"What for?"

Joker—"Why, to shock the corn."

He sent his boy to college,
And now he cries, Alack!
He spent ten thousand dollars
And got a quarter back.

THE GLEANER acknowledges the receipt of the following exchanges:

The Harvard Monthly, *The Opinion*, *The Oracle*, *Heraldo*, *The Racquet*, *The Students' Herald*, *The Grove City Collegian*, *Pottsville High School Monthly*, *The White and Blue*, *The Mercury*, *The Capitoline*, *Baker City High School Nugget*, *High School Journal*, Pittsburg; *The Red and Black*, Chicago; *The Latin and High School Review*, *The Spectrum*, *The Crucible*, *The Mirror*, *The Observer*, *The Delphic News*, *The Optimist*, *The Susquehanna*, *Pierce School Alumni Journal*, *Y. H. S. Searchlight*, *The Iris*, *The Cheltenham Reveille*, *College Signal*.

The Capitoline is much improved.

The Mercury, Milwaukee, Wis., contains interesting stories.

First Tramp—"I wish my name was Asia."

Second Tramp—"Why?"

First Tramp—"Have you never heard of Turkey in Asia?"

Mrs. Newlywed—"You've got some dirt on your eye, John."

Mr. Newlywed—"Yes, dear; I just swept the horizon with it."

The Christmas issue of *The Racquet* is very good.

Even the man with one foot in the grave may do a lot of kicking with the other one.



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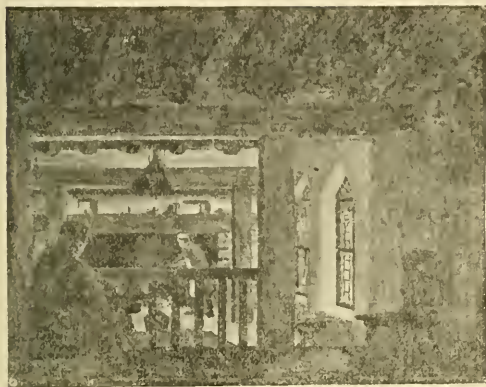
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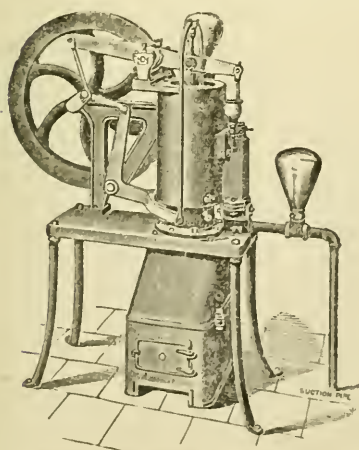
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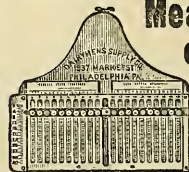
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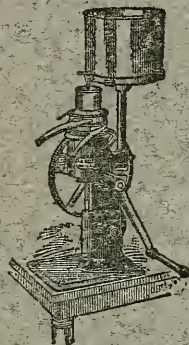
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